Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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SUBJECT: US-USSR S&T AGREEMENT: WORKING GROUP REPORT ON CHEMICAL CATALYSIS (01.02) - PREPARATIONS FOR FIFTH JOINT COMMISSION MEETING

1. US SIDE HAS REVIEWED SOVIET DRAFT WORKING GROUP REPORT ON CHEMICAL CATALYSIS AND FINDS THE SUBSTANCE ACCEPTABLE. HOWEVER, WOULD LIKE TO MAKE CHANGES IN INTRODUCTORY AND CONCLUDING SECTIONS OF REPORT AS GIVEN BELOW IN ORDER TO PUT REPORT IN STANDARD FORMAT AGREED BY EXECUTIVE SECRETARIATS. SECTION I - THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORKING GROUP, AND SECTION II - LIST OF PROJECTS SHOULD REPLACE PRESENT PAGES 1 AND 2 OF SOVIET DRAFT. SECTION III - ACCOMPLISHMENTS, BEGINS WITH WORDS "THE LAST SOVIET AMERICAN SYMPOSIUM ON CATALYSIS ..." ON BOTTOM OF PAGE 2 OF ENGLISH TRANSLATION. CONCLUDING SECTIONS OF REPORT, IV SUMMARY AND V RECOMMENDATIONS WOULD CONCLUDE REPORT BUT PRECEDE APPENDIX 1 WHICH CONSISTS OF LISTS OF JOINT PUBLICATIONS. THE TRANSLATION OF
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SOVIET DRAFT BEING POUCHED UNDER REGISTRY NO. 3145422.

2. TEXT OF REVISED SECTIONS FOLLOWS.

REPORT

TO THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE US-USSR JOINT COMMISSION ON

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SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION BY THE JOINT
WORKING GROUP ON CHEMICAL CATALYSIS

I. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORKING GROUP

IN TWO CLOSELY SCHEDULED MEETINGS IN SEPTEMBER 1972, ONE IN THE UNITED STATES AND ONE IN THE SOVIET UNION, THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED WORKING GROUP ON CHEMICAL CATALYSIS DISCUSSED OPPORTUNITIES FOR COOPERATION IN THIS FIELD AND AGREED TO PRESENT TO THE JOINT COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL THE FIVE TOPICS LISTED BELOW. THE JOINT COMMISSION ACTED FAVORABLY ON THE RECOMMENDATION AT ITS FIRST SESSION ON MARCH 21, 1973. THE TOPICS SELECTED FOR COOPERATION POSSESS A HIGH DEGREE OF CURRENT INTEREST AND INTENSIVE STUDIES ARE IN PROGRESS IN BOTH COUNTRIES IN THESE AREAS.

II. LIST OF PROJECTS

THE APPROVED TOPICS ARE:

1) CATALYSIS BY COORDINATION COMPLEXES AND ORGANO-METALLIC COMPOUNDS

2) MATHEMATICAL MODELING OF CATALYTIC REACTORS

3) IN-DEPTH STUDY OF SELECTED CATALYTIC SYSTEMS

4) APPLICATION OF CATALYSIS TO LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS IN
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SPACE VEHICLES

5) CATALYSIS IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

IV. SUMMARY

SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN THE AREAS OF ALL TOPICS WITHIN THE PROGRAM ON CHEMICAL CATALYSIS WAS ACHIEVED AS THE RESULT OF THE SOVIET-AMERICAN COOPERATION. JOINT STUDIES RESULTED IN ACTUAL PUBLICATION OR SUBMITTAL FOR PUBLICATION IN INTERNATIONAL JOURNALS OF OVER 30 JOINT PAPERS. A BILATERAL EXCHANGE OF RESEARCH FELLOWS WAS IMPLEMENTED: 16 SOVIET (TOTAL LENGTH OF STAY WAS 103

MAN-MONTHS) AND 23 AMERICAN (105.5 MAN-MONTHS) FELLOWS PERFORMED STUDIES ON JOINT TOPICS AT LEADING LABORATORIES IN BOTH COUNTRIES. THREE SOVIET-AMERICAN SYMPOSIA ON CATALYSIS WERE HELD (NOVOSIBIRSK, PRINCETON, AND KIEV), WHICH DISCUSSED THE RESULTS OF THEORETICAL

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STUDIES PERFORMED UNILATERALLY, AS WELL AS THE RESULTS OF JOINT STUDIES; THE NEXT SYMPOSIUM IS PLANNED FOR 1977 IN THE USA.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS

1) THE QUALITY OF THE SCIENTIFIC WORK BEING DONE UNDER THE JOINT PROGRAM AND THE MUTUAL BENEFITS TO BOTH THE US AND THE SOVIET SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITIES JUSTIFY THE CONTINUATION OF THE CHEMICAL CATALYSIS PROGRAM.

2) THE PROGRAM OF COOPERATION SHOULD BE RESTRUCTURED TO COVER THE FOLLOWING FOUR TOPICS:

TOPIC 1 - HOMOGENEOUS CATALYSIS BY ORGANOMETALLIC COMPOUNDS

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TOPIC 2 - CATALYTIC REACTOR MODELING

TOPIC 3 - CHARACTERIZATION OF CATALYTIC MATERIALS BY PHYSICAL METHODS

TOPIC 4 - DEVELOPMENT OF CATALYTIC SYSTEMS OF APPLIED INTEREST.

3. REQUEST EMBASSY TRANSMIT COPIES OF REVISED SECTIONS AND ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF SOVIET DRAFT TO BORESKOV AND AYKAZYAN.
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